no adjustment seems very likely since the one must inevitably at some point take refuge in authority, while the other is inhibited by his Kantian theory of knowledge from accepting the other's terminology.

The Rev. Dr. Edmund S. Middleton, in his book, "Unity and Rome" (Macmillan), looks "beyond Episcopalianism and Anglicanism to the broader vision of a reunited church," his thesis being that no unity is possible that does not include the Roman Church. It is, indeed, beyond question that the wide movement toward sacramentalism (noted by Dr. McConnell) is toward Rome, and that many of the once Protestant churches seem headed in that direction. A curious pendant to this tendency is to be found in such a book as "Self-Training in Mysticism," by H. L. Hubbard, who is "assistant priest of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Ashford, Kent" (issued by Dutton), which is a "guide to the mystic way" within the Anglican communion.

Notable among Roman Catholic contributions are "The Divine Counsellor," by Martin J. Scott, S. J. (P. J. Kennedy & Sons), which also strikes the note of mysticism; "Prophets of the Better Hope," by the Rev. William J. Kerby (Macmillan), which has a foreword by Bishop Thomas J. Shahan, rector of the Catholic University of America, and "Great Penitents," by the Rev. Hugh F. Blunt (Macmillan), which selects medieval and modern instances, from St. Camillus de Lellis, a Neapolitan gambler of the sixteenth century, and Silvio Pellico, down to Francois Coppee, J. K. Huysmans and Paul Verlaine. Other noteworthy publications are "The Soul of Ireland," by W. J. Lockington, S. J., with an introduction by G. K. Chesterton (Macmillan), which is a poetic glorification of Catholic Ireland; "Social Catholicism in England," by Dr. Karl Waninger, translated by Charles Plater (N. V. Lecturis, Eindhoven, Holland) and "The Word of God," by Monsignor Francis Borgongini-Duca, Secretary of Extraordinary Affairs at the Vatican, translated by the Rev. Francis J. Spellman of Boston (Macmillan), with an introduction by the Apostolic Delegate, the Most Rev. John Bonzano.

VIII.

There are also important contributions to the general subject from scholars and scientists, the most important of which is a symposium on "Religion and the Future Life" (Revell), conducted at Yale for the study of the history of beliefs in life after death in the various religions and philosophies. It is edited by Dr. E. Hershey Sneath of Yale. The discussion is opened by Prof. Franz Boas of Columbia with "The Idea of Future Life Among Primitive Peoples," which goes to the roots of so-called "natural religion." This is followed by a paper by the eminent Prof. James H. Breasted of Chicago on "Ancient Egyptian Ideas of the Life Hereafter." Prof. E. Washburn Hopkins of Yale deals with India and Prof. Morris Jastrow with Babylonia and Assyria; Prof. A. V. Williams Jackson of Columbia treats of the ancient Persian doctrines. From this preliminary survey the discussion passes to "Immortality in the Hebrew Religion," by Prof. Lewis Bayles Paton, and "Immortality in Greek Religion," by Arthur Fairbanks of the Boston Museum. The doctrines of the synoptic Gospels of St. Paul and of the Fourth Gospel are discussed by Profs. Benjamin W. Bacon and Frank Chamberlain of Yale. Prof. Duncan Black McDonald of Hartford adds a chapter on "Immortality in Mohammedanism," and finally Dr. Sneath sums up the philosophic concepts of life after death. It makes a volume of unusual value both to layman and specialist. The prime conclusion that is inevitable is that some belief in immortality has been a necessity to mankind ever since he began to think at all.

An important work of scholarship is "New Testament History," by Dr. G. W. Wade (E. P. Dutton Company), which gives in handy compass an almost encyclopedic statement of historic, linguistic and theological data for the study of the New Testament, including a sketch of the Roman world as a background, of Jewish institutions and previous Jewish history. One section is devoted to textual criticism; another to documentary criticism, and there is a supplementary chapter on the Apostolic church. The maps are particularly clear, the book is well made and adequately indexed.

"Old Testament Law for Bible Students," by Roger Sherman Galer (Macmillan), is a novel study by an experienced lawyer, arranged in some correspondence to modern legal systems.

Church history is represented by the study made by the late Dr. J. de Hoop Scheffer, professor in the Mennonite College and in the University of Amsterdam, of the Brownists, Pilgrim Fathers and Baptists in the Dutch Republic, 1581-1701, entitled "History of the Free Churchmen." It is edited by William Elliot Griffis; published by Andrus & Church, Ithaca, N. Y.

"The Hebrew Scriptures in the Making" (Jewish Publication Society) is an examination by Max L. Margolies of the growth and chronology of the Hebrew books, of value to Bible students as well as to Hebraists.

The issue of a "Children's Bible" (Charles Scribner's Sons) is another attempt to attract attention to the Scriptures by pictorial and other extraneous aids. It is sumptuously gotten up, with sixteen illustrations in color from paintings and as many more duotone reproductions. The translation, or sometimes the paraphrase, is by Prof. Charles F. Kent of Yale and Mr. Henry A. Sherman and is a scholarly though simple version. It remains less sonorous than the old King James version. Another attempt at popularization is the volume entitled, "Jesus of Nazareth," by "John Mark" (D. Appleton & Co.), which is simply the gospel of Mark printed in the form of a modern story.

Orientalism is represented in "The Message of Buddhism," by Subhadra Bhikku, edited by J. P. Ellam (Dutton), which is an adaptation and reprint of the Buddhist catechism; an authoritative statement of Buddhist doctrine and rules of conduct, "it does not seek to frighten the evil doer by the threat of punishment but to clear up the eye of the erring one, obscured by earthly delusion, so that he may be able to see the truth for himself."

Spiritism, aside from some merely freak books, is presented by Lucy McDowell Milburn's book, "The Classic of Spiritism" (The Dacrow Company), which calls for mention as it is, in some sense, a sign of the times in England, where Spiritism is rapidly assuming the proportions of an organized church. The thesis of this book is that the Bible is the "classic, the master work of psychic literature," and that Spiritism is of its very essence. It follows that to understand it one must see it as the modern Spiritists do.

H. L. PANGBORN.

Stories of the Great and Near Great

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S MAIDS OF HONOR. By Violet A. Wilson. E. P. Dutton & Co.

JOHN RUSKIN'S LETTERS TO WILLIAM WARD. With a short biography of William Ward, by William C. Ward, and an introduction by Alfred Mansfield Brooks. Marshall Jones Company.

"INDISCRETIONS" OF LADY SUSAN. By Lady Susan Townley. D. Appleton & Co.

THE DIARY OF A JOURNALIST: LATER ENTRIES. By Sir Henry Lucy. E. P. Dutton & Co.

LIFE AND LETTERS OF JANET ERSKINE STUART. By Maud Monahan. Longmans, Green & Co.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM H. HUNT. By his son, Thomas Hunt. Privately printed: Brattleboro, Vt.

FROM PRINTER TO PRESIDENT. By Sherman A. Cuneo. Dorrance & Co.

OUR PRESIDENTS AND THEIR MOTHERS. By William J. Hampton. The Cornhill Publishing Company.

THERE has been a tendency of late to publish too many biographies, too many pseudo-historical works, too many editions of the letters of distinguished men. This tendency finds striking illustration in the group of books under review. Amid a mass of valuable and interesting material we here find detailed accounts of much that is unimportant, page after page of trivialities connected with some prominent name, gossipy records of insignificant personal experience, and pretentious "life stories" of men whose accomplishments warrant no biography. Where the author writes with the skill that gives to undistinguished figures the reality of well drawn characters of fiction the narrative will frequently be self justified; but where the writer lacks this creative ability the biography or autobiography as often as not represents nothing but a waste of ink and paper.

As an example of a book that succeeds in the attempt to invest historical characters with reality we may mention Violet A. Wilson's volume on "Queen Elizabeth's Maids of Honor." Here we have an interesting account of the relations of Elizabeth with the ladies of her privy chamber; we see the Queen discoursing to her maidens on the advantages of a life of virginity; we observe the maidens following the advice by entering into intricate love affairs; we witness the wrath of the monarch upon learning that some of her followers have secretly married, and we behold with indignation the fearful punishment the Queen metes out to the offending lovers—separation and imprisonment, usually leading to their untimely death. Although the book embodies no new material, it has the merit of presenting old material freshly and entertainingly; we get a vivid picture of the ruthless and despotic Elizabeth, and we are treated to brief but illuminating glimpses of her courtiers and of the colorful court life that surrounds her.

If we turn from this book to "John Ruskin's Letters to William Ward" we will find ourselves confronted with a work that one might assume to be valuable, but that actually does not justify itself. It will detract not one iota from the great name of Ruskin to say that his letters to William Ward show no signs of greatness; that they are for the most part commonplace communications, which, while containing some valuable comments on art, are on the whole unillumined and valueless. Ruskin never designed them for publication, and he is not to be blamed if, like many of the bright lights of literature, he is forced to suffer the indignity of having even his business correspondence and his most intimate private letters ruthlessly exposed to a pryng publicity.

Somewhat more valuable is the volume entitled "'Indiscretions' of Lady Susan." This book, by the wife of an experienced diplomat, gives a detailed and entertaining account of experiences in Berlin, Rome, Pekin, Constantinople and other leading capitals of the world. The author has many interesting anecdotes to recite concerning characters of world prominence, from the Dowager Empress of China to the King of Belgium; she steeps one in the atmosphere of the various courts of Europe and Asia, writing always from the point of view of personal experience, and thereby holding the reader's attention constantly, even though many of the topics she deals with are far from important.

Similar to the "Indiscretions," in that it is a record of personal experience, is "The Diary of a Journalist," by Sir Henry Lucy. The author records in an intimate, gossipy style his experiences in London during the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth; he gives us pictures of numerous celebrated characters, including men no less well known than Gladstone, Balfour and Oscar Wilde; but, on the whole, his work is lacking in vitality; it lays too much emphasis on trivial events, and fails because of the lack of a significant subject matter.

The remaining four books require but brief mention. Maud Monahan's volume on the "Life and Letters of Jane Erskine Stuart" is a carefully written and detailed biography of the late mother general of the Society of the Sacred Heart; "The Life of William B. Hunt," by Thomas Hunt, is a biography of the man who was Secretary of the Navy under Garfield and later United States Minister to Russia; "From Printer to President," by Sherman A. Cuneo, is the story of the rise of Warren G. Harding from the office of a country newspaper to the White House, and "Our Presidents and Their Mothers," by William J. Hampton, represents an attempt to trace the influence that the mothers of the various Presidents had in starting their sons along the road toward the highest honor the country has to offer.

STANTON A. COBLENTZ.

From Madison to Volstead

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. By James M. Beck. George H. Doran Company.

IN discussing the political philosophy that animated those astute gentlemen who framed our Constitution, Solicitor-General Beck observes that only the last three amendments, "passed in recent years partly through the relaxing influence of the world war," mark notable departures from the principles on which the republic originally was founded. These three amendments are the Seventeenth, which made United States Senators elective directly by the people; the Eighteenth, which prohibited the manufacture, sale and transportation of intoxicating liquors within the United States, and the Nineteenth, which gave women full suffrage rights.

The prohibition amendment, says Mr. Beck, infringed the principle of home rule; Federal restriction of beverages "would have been unthinkable to the framers of the Constitution." Popular election of Senators vitally altered the nice balance which the framers sought to fix between the departments of a government partly subject to direct democratic control and partly far removed from it. Not only were Senators chosen by the State Legislatures until 1913 but the President originally was chosen by electors selected in some States not by the voters but by the legislatures. Woman suffrage, of course, was not even contemplated in 1787. At that time even full manhood suffrage was not general in the United States: male freeholders in most States constituted the voters.

Not satisfied with the change which made the President virtually a direct choice of the voters (though by the arrangement of electors a minority might, and has, chosen a President), Senator Norris of Nebraska now proposes that the President be elected directly by popular vote. This would not be such a great departure as those already made. But it shows the tendency that has been and still is at work modifying our Constitution. It has changed it somewhat from the original and probably will change it further. That tendency is one toward greater democracy.

The founders of the republic were not nearly as sanguine of democracy as we seem to be to-day. Most of them were apprehensive of it. They sought to hold it in check, to surround the Constitution with safeguards against complete popular rule. Of the three great divisions of government they set up, only one-half of one was placed under the direct control of the voters. The lower house was chosen by popular vote (with property qualification). The upper house was not; neither was the President nor the judiciary. They did not follow the principle of majority rule: for instance, each State has two Senators regardless of population, and it takes far more than a majority (three-fourths of the States and two-thirds of each house of Congress) to amend the Constitution. Amendments, excepting, of course, the prohibition amendment, have lately been moves toward giving democracy fuller sway in national affairs.

Whether this end is likely to turn out for the better or worse is a matter of opinion, and one not easily settled at this juncture. But as to the right and power of the people, through three-fourths of the Legislatures, to change the Constitution in as radical a degree as they desire there has been hardly any question. So it is puzzling, at least to the layman, when Mr. Beck says that "the only respect in which the Constitution to-day cannot be amended is that by express provision the equality of representation (among the States) in the Senate shall never be disturbed." The Constitution does not say that it shall never be disturbed. One had assumed that anything in the Constitution, or the whole of it, could be changed whenever three-fourths of the legislatures should so vote.

Mr. Beck's essay is a reprint of three lectures he delivered at Gray's Inn last summer. While designed primarily to elucidate the structure of our Government for the benefit of British lawyers, it is an exposition in brief of a subject that is far too little known in America